

MPSPride Monthly

Bowers Edition

April 2016

Wednesday, April 27 is “Administrative Professionals Day” – and throughout our district there will be flowers, cards and words of appreciation directed at the secretaries, registrars, para educators and others who handle a wide range of office tasks that keep our buildings running efficiently.

“The work done in our offices and often behind-the-scenes is crucially important,” Superintendent Matt Geary said, “and it’s nice to give special recognition to employees who handle this.”

Staff members working in offices are especially important because they are often the first people that parents, guardians and others speak to when they call or visit our schools.

“We always want the outside community to feel welcome and valued,” said Scott Ratchford, director of the district’s Community and Family Partnership office.

“We are fortunate to have so

The Of The School



At Bowers, you'll find secretary Deb Fitzgerald (left) and para educator Candy Sendrak in the main office.

many office staff who are wonderful ambassadors for our schools – because the impression they make and the relationships they create are crucial.”

In recognition of this

day and their contributions every day, we are pleased to include in this edition of the “MPS Monthly” newsletter a photograph of office staff who do such important work.

District-Wide Science Fair with Invention Convention

We have results, pictures and more!
Check it out at www.MPSPride.org



Attendance Tips!

See the back of this newsletter for **4** suggestions that can help children with school attendance.

"Green Guacamole Guarantee"

That was just one of the many intriguing projects on display at this year's big event. We have results, pictures and more on the district website at www.MPS Pride.org — and will have even more coverage after almost 20 Manchester students take part in the state Invention Convention at UConn on April 30.



Attendance Tips!

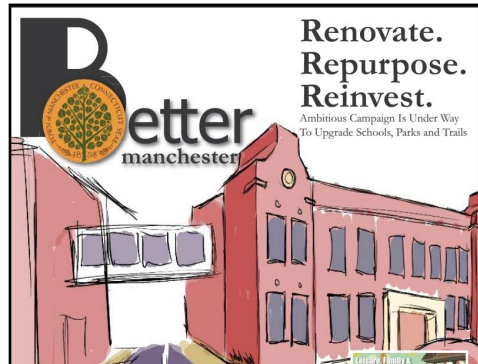
1. Establish and stick to the basic routines (going to bed early, waking up on time, etc.) that will help your child develop the habit of on-time attendance.
2. Talk to your child about why going to school every day is critical and important unless they are sick. If your child seems reluctant to go to school, find out why and work with school staff to get them excited about going to school.

3. Come up with back up plans for who to turn to (another family member, a neighbor or fellow parents) to help you get your child to school if something comes up (e.g. another child gets sick, your car breaks down, etc.).

4. Reach out for help if you are experiencing tough times (e.g. transportation, unstable housing, loss of a job, health problems) that make it difficult to get your child to school. Other parents, your child's teacher, principal, social worker, school nurse, after-school providers or community agencies can help you problem-solve or connect you to a needed resource.

Read 'MPS Today' Every School Day!

Superintendent Matt Geary sends an "MPS This Week" memo to all parents and guardians by email at the start of every school week — and you can also check out a similar "MPS Today" digest every school day by checking the district's Twitter and Facebook accounts. (Just search for 'MPS Pride'.)



The latest issue of "Better Manchester Magazine" looks at the upcoming renovation of the Cheney Building — and how work there puts in motion positive changes at all of our elementary schools. Look for it in your mailbox or read about it now at www.MPS Pride.org.

Our Video Vault is Growing

People are increasingly turning to video clips for news and information, so we invite you to peruse our "Manchester Minute" video series, which addresses subjects including STEM instruction, our social thinking curriculum, the role of instructional coaches, and more. You'll find them in the 'Superintendent's Corner' at www.MPS Pride.org.



Our district website includes a page designed to attract the best possible new teachers — but anyone can check it out!